

# The American Association for Thoracic Surgery

## AATS Week 2014



Dear Colleagues,

I would like to personally invite you to experience **AATS Week 2014**. The week begins with intensive instruction at the 2-day Aortic Symposium in New York City (April 24-25, 2014) and then moves to Toronto (94th Annual Meeting, April 26-30) where you will see the best science in our specialty with a focus on accomplishing skills essential to becoming a master surgeon and educator. (Discount airfares are available from New York to Toronto listed on the AATS Web site.)

From its outset, the Annual Meeting will feature new sessions including the completely revamped Skills and Post-graduate courses. The full-day Saturday skills courses will be followed by hands-on learning sessions on Saturday evening available by separate ticket. On Sunday the PG courses will consist of new rapid-fire presentations from leaders in their respective fields and joint sessions between the congenital and adult courses in the afternoon. The PG courses feature a "Legends" luncheon that will have presentations by Drs Alain Carpentier, Aldo Castaneda, and F. Griffith Pearson, who will impart their perspectives on their careers as pioneers in cardiothoracic surgery.

A new single ticket format for the Saturday and Sunday courses will allow attendees to move freely between sessions to participate in various talks of interest.

The exhibit hall activities will emphasize outreach to young surgeons with "Top Gun" technical competitions as well as scientific poster sessions for national and international residents along with a new "Surgeon of the Future" program.

In addition to a first-rate scientific program developed from a record number of abstract submissions, the contributions of past AATS presidents will be highlighted through a series of biographies interspersed within the plenary sessions. During the simultaneous sessions new national guidelines in the fields of thoracic and cardiac surgery will also be presented.

Following on the theme of becoming a master surgeon and educator, we have invited two guest speakers to share their vision of leadership. Rick Pitino, the master coach of the 2013 national collegiate basketball champion Louisville Cardinals and *New York Times* bestseller, will talk about the principles of coaching that we can apply to educating our residents. Margaret "Coach Meg" Moore, a coach of coaches, will help us to understand the neuroscience of effective coaching and the way in which the brain adapts to master coaching for life-long improvement in judgment and technical skill.

These lectures complement the concepts of "Clarity of Purpose and Focused Attention, the Essence of Excellence" that I will introduce during the 94th Presidential Address.

The meeting concludes on Wednesday with a new must see, Masters of Cardiothoracic Surgery, "Live" video series, featuring procedures done and narrated by the leaders and luminaries of our specialty. This will be followed by the fiery debates and popular TCT program later in the day.

This is Toronto, an international city, where, coincidentally, I trained in thoracic surgery. The city has everything one could want in a meeting venue.

The leadership of the AATS looks forward to welcoming all of you to this innovative **AATS Week 2014**, which begins in New York with the Aortic Symposium and culminates in Toronto with the 94th Annual Meeting. The week will provide a truly international experience where your skills can be retooled and your outlook recharged for our specialty of cardiothoracic surgery. See you there!!



David J. Sugarbaker, MD

## AATS Aortic Symposium 2014

**April 24-25, 2014**

New York Hilton Midtown  
New York, New York

### Course Directors:

Joseph S. Coselli  
*Houston, Texas*

Steven L. Lansman  
*New York, New York*

AATS AORTIC SYMPOSIUM 2014 is a two-day symposium focused on the pathophysiology, diagnosis, and treatment of aortic aneurysms and dissections. This conference is designed for cardiovascular and thoracic surgeons,